

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-40 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 23, 29, 35, 37, and 39 are amended. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 10-22, 25-28, and 31-34 are allowed. The Examiner is further thanked for the indication that claims 5, 7-9, 24, 30, 36, 38 and 40 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, for the reasons set forth below, these claims have not been rewritten in independent form at this time.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-4, 6, 23, 29, 35, 37, and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over the "Background of the Related Art" section of the present application in view of Chang et al. (hereinafter "Chang"), U.S. Patent No. 6,016,142. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites a method of selecting special characters in a hand-held mobile communication terminal comprising, *inter alia*, in addition to inputting an alphabet letter in an editing mode via a keypad, displaying on a display a plurality of European alphabet letters, including special characters not used in the English alphabet, corresponding to the input alphabet letters, wherein a series of numbers are displayed on the display associated respectively with each of the European alphabet letters. Apparatus claims 23, 29, 35, 37, and 39 recite similar

features. Independent claims 35, 37, and 39 further recite a user may select a desired European alphabet letter by pressing a key on the input unit designating the number respectively associated with the desired European alphabet letter. Neither the “Background of the Related Art” section of the present application nor Chang discloses or suggests such features, or the respective claimed combinations of independent claims 1, 23, 29, 35, 37, and 39.

The Office Action acknowledges that the “Background of the Related Art” section of the present application “fails to teach a series of numbers are associated respectively with each of the European alphabet letters.” The Office Action then argues that “Chang discloses a series of numbers (1-9) are associated respectively with each of the European alphabet letters,” and concludes that “it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teaching of the [“Background of the Related Art” section of the present application] to include a series of numbers that are associated respectively with each of the European alphabet letters...in the same conventional manner as taught by Chang [] in order to allow a user to select one of the characters.”

However, the “Background of the Related Art” section of the present application teaches inputting an alphabet letter by pushing a number/letter key on a keypad, then pushing a predetermined key to enter a special character input mode. Once the user selects the special character input mode, a plurality of European alphabet letters, which are stored as related to or

associated with the alphabet letter are displayed on a screen. The user then uses a toggle key to search the displayed European alphabet letters.

Chang teaches generating a screen display of individual characters in 3 by 3 display groups, the characters belonging to a language set. The characters are grouped together in a 3 by 3 display group to correspond to numbers 1-9 on a keypad 12. For example, as shown in Fig. 1, letters A-I are grouped together in a 3 by 3 display group indicated by reference numeral 16, letters J-R are grouped together in a 3 by 3 display group indicated by reference numeral 18, and letters S-Z are grouped together in a 3 by 3 display group indicated by reference numeral 20. The three display groups are displayed on display screen 14 along with left and right “clickable” icons 24 and 26 and an icon 22 labeled “page.” However, neither the “Background of the Related Art” section of the present application nor Chang disclose or suggest at least displaying a series of numbers on the display associated respectively with each of the European alphabet letters.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claims 1, 23, 29, 35, 37, and 39 over the “Background of the Related Art” section of the present application and Chang should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2-4 and 6 are allowable over the “Background of the Related Art” section of the present application and Chang at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

Serial No. 10/036,377

Docket No. P-0282

Amdt. dated October 24, 2007

Reply to Office Action of August 3, 2007

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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